GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:306
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2017
Camera Surveillance System for Dams and Reservoirs
Senthilnathan Shri PR.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken adequate steps for the safety of dams and reservoirs in the country including installation of CCTV cameras, sensors and detectors thereby providing 24x7 security/ surveillance and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has allocated funds for the purpose;

(c) if so, the quantum of funds released and expenditure incurred thereon during each of the last five years; and

(d) the further steps proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure foolproof security and safety of dams and reservoirs?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

(SUSHRI UMA BHARTI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Starrred Question No. *306 for answer on 23.03.2017 regarding Camera Surveillance System for Dams and Reservoirs raised by Shri Pr. Senthil Nathan, Hon"ble MP.

(a) to (c) The owners of the respective dams who are generally State Governments or Central Agencies like BBMB, NHPC etc. maintain and operate the dams including providing for their adequate security. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation provides technical and financial assistance to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes such as Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Programme (DRIP).

DRIP was started in April 2012 and is scheduled to be completed in June 2018 with the financial assistance of World Bank for the rehabilitation of about 225 dam projects from the point of view of safety across the seven States of India, namely Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Jharkhand (DVC) and Uttarakhand (UJVNL). The total project cost is Rs. 2100 Crore.

The works undertaken under DRIP, inter-alia, includes installation of safety and security devices such as CCTV cameras for surveillance at selected dams.

The State-wise breakup of the dams identified for rehabilitation along with fund allocated to Project Implementing Agencies under DRIP is given as under:

State No of DRIP dams Total Project Cost
(Rs. Crore)
Kerala (WRD & EB) 28 279.98
Orissa (WRD) 26 147.74
Madhya Pradesh (WRD) 29 314.54
Tamil Nadu (WRD & EB) 107 745.49
Karnataka (WRD) 27 276.75
Jharkhand (DVC) 3 139.40
Uttarakhand (UJVNL) 5 64.10
Central Water Commission 132.00
Total 225 2100.00
WRD: Water Resources Department, EB: Electricity Board,
DVC: Damodar Valley Corporation, UJVNL: Uttarakhand Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd

d) Draft Cabinet Note on the proposal for the enactment of Dam Safety Bill was circulated to Central Ministries, along with NITI Aayog, on 18.05.2016. NITI Aayog suggested fresh consultations with the States as the present Bill has national level applicability. Accordingly, the draft Dam Safety Bill was circulated to all the States and Union Territories vide DO letter dated 09.08.2016. Further, 37th meeting of National Committee on Dam Safety (NCDS) held on 17 & 18th February, 2017 discussed the draft Dam Safety Bill.

In accordance with the comments received from various States and outcome of the 37th Meeting of NCDS, some changes in the Bill are envisaged and the matter has been referred to Ministry of Law & Justice for incorporating the proposed changes in the Bill.

The purpose of Dam Safety Bill is to ensure safety of dams and the life & property of people downstream. The Bill will be applicable to all large dams in India. It has provisions for perpetual surveillance, inspection as well as for installation of various scientific and technical instruments.

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